Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 through 225: Cancelled

226. (Previously submitted) A recombinant vector comprising a DNA regulatory element operably linked to a DNA molecule that encodes a wild-type human cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator protein, wherein the DNA molecule is capable of stable propagation in *E. coli*.

227. (Previously submitted) A recombinant vector comprising a DNA regulatory element operably linked to a DNA molecule encoding the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator protein of Figure 15 wherein the DNA molecule is capable of stable propagation in *E. coli* as a result of:

(*a*) said DNA regulatory element permitting maintenance of the DNA molecule in *E. coli* at a low copy number, or

(*b*) the nucleotide sequence of the DNA molecule being modified to disrupt its expression in *E. coli* while allowing its expression in mammalian cells.

228. (Amended) A DNA molecule comprising:

(*a*) a DNA sequence that encodes wild-type human cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator protein, and

(*b*) at least one regulatory element operably linked to said ~~uninterrupted~~ DNA sequence which element permits transcription of the ~~uninterrupted~~ DNA sequence in a host prokaryotic cell.

229. (Previously submitted) A DNA molecule according to claim 228 wherein said DNA sequence contains at least one silent mutation which stabilizes expression of the gene.

230. (Previously submitted) A plasmid comprising a DNA molecule according claim

228.

231. (Previously submitted) A host prokaryotic cell comprising a plasmid according claim 230.

232. (Previously submitted) A DNA molecule comprising:

(*a*) an uninterrupted DNA sequence that encodes wild-type, human cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator protein, and

(*b*) at least one regulatory element operably linked to said uninterrupted DNA sequence which element permits transcription of the uninterrupted DNA sequence in a host eukaryotic cell.

233. (Previously submitted) The DNA molecule according to claim 232 wherein said regulatory element DNA corresponds to at least a portion of the genome of a virus which portion is cable of infecting the host eukaryotic cell.

234. (Previously submitted) A recombinant vector according to claim 233 wherein the virus is a retrovirus.

235. (Previously submitted) A viral vector containing an encoding sequence for human CFTR.

236-237: Cancelled

238. (Previously submitted) A viable host *E. coli* cell that comprises a DNA sequence coding for human CFTR protein.

239. (Previously submitted) A host *E. coli* cell according to claim 238 that comprises a plasmid, itself comprising a CFTR-encoding DNA sequence, wherein said plasmid can be maintained and propagated in said cell.

240. (New) A DNA molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence that encodes wild-type, human cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator protein wherein the DNA molecule is capable of stable prokaryotic propagation as a result of the nucleotide sequence of the DNA molecule being modified to disrupt prokaryotic expression while allowing its expression in mammalian cells.

241. (New) A DNA molecule according to claim 240 wherein the DNA molecule is modified by insertion of a synthetic intron.

242. (New) A DNA molecule according to claim 240 wherein the DNA molecule is modified by altering at least one sequence that has the potential to operate as a prokaryotic promoter sequence.

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